BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the First Amended **Accusation Against:**

Naheed Pyar Ali, M.D.

Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. C 54393

Respondent.

DECISION

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted as the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on March 23, 2023.

IT IS SO ORDERED: Febuary 21, 2023.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Case No.: 800-2020-064523

Laurie Rose Lubiano, J.D., Chair

Panel A

1	Rob Bonta		
2	Attorney General of California ROBERT MCKIM BELL		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General COLLEEN M. McGurrin		
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar Number 147250 California Department of Justice 300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702		
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6 7	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 269-6546 Facsimile: (916) 731-2117 Attorneys for Complainant		
8	Autorneys for Complainain		
9	BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA		
10	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
11	STATE OF C	ALIFORNIA	
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13	In the Matter of the First Amended Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2020-064523	
14	NAHEED PYAR ALI, M.D.	OAH No. 2021120321	
15	435 North Bedford Drive Suite 107 Beverly Hills, CA 90210	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER	
16 17	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number C 54393		
18	Respondent.		
19			
20	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-		
21	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:		
22	<u>PARTIES</u>		
23	1. William Prasifka (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board of		
24	California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this		
25	matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Colleen M. McGurrin,		
26	Deputy Attorney General.		
27	2. Naheed Pyar Ali, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney		
28	Nicholas Jurkowitz, Esq., of Fenton Law Group, LLP, whose address is 1990 South Bundy Drive		
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Suite 777, Los Angeles, CA 90025.

3. On or about October 29, 2010, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number C 54393 to Naheed Pyar Ali, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in First Amended Accusation No. 800-2020-064523, and will expire on April 30, 2024, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

- 4. First Amended Accusation No. 800-2020-064523 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The First Amended Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on February 1, 2022. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the First Amended Accusation.
- 5. A copy of First Amended Accusation No. 800-2020-064523 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in First Amended Accusation No. 800-2020-064523. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with her counsel, and fully understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the First Amended Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 8. Respondent freely, voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

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CULPABILITY

- 9. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 800-2020-064523.
- 9. Respondent agrees that her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate is subject to discipline and she agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CONTINGENCY

- Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Medical Board of California may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or her counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 11. Respondent agrees that if she ever petitions for early termination or modification of probation, or if an accusation and/or petition to revoke probation is filed against her before the Board, all of the charges and allegations contained in First Amended Accusation No. 800-2020-064523 shall be deemed true, correct and fully admitted by Respondent for purposes of any such proceeding or any other licensing proceeding involving Respondent in the State of California.
- 12. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or opportunity to be heard by the Respondent, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number C 54393 issued to Respondent NAHEED PYAR ALI, M.D. is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for five (5) years on the following terms and conditions:

- 1. EDUCATION COURSE. Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this
 Decision, and on an annual basis thereafter, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee
 for its prior approval educational program(s) or course(s) in the areas of 1) Professionalism,
 2) Ethics, 3) Professional Development, and 4) Dishonesty in the Medical Profession or any other
 area(s) determined by the Board or its designee, which shall not be less than 40 hours per year,
 for each year of probation. The educational program(s) or course(s) shall be aimed at correcting
 any areas of deficient practice or knowledge and shall be Category I certified. The educational
 program(s) or course(s) shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the
 Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure. Following the
 completion of each course, the Board or its designee may administer an examination to test
 Respondent's knowledge of the course. Respondent shall provide proof of attendance for 65
 hours of CME of which 40 hours were in satisfaction of this condition.
- 2. PROFESSIONALISM PROGRAM (ETHICS COURSE). Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a professionalism program, that meets the requirements of Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 1358.1. Respondent shall participate in and successfully complete that program. Respondent shall provide any information and documents that the program may deem pertinent. Respondent shall successfully complete the classroom component of the program not later than six (6) months after Respondent's initial enrollment, and the longitudinal component of the program not later than the time specified by the program, but no later than one (1) year after attending the classroom component. The professionalism program shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure and shall be in addition to the education course(s) required by Condition 3.

A professionalism program taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the

Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Board or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the program would have been approved by the Board or its designee had the program been taken after the effective date of this Decision.

Respondent shall submit a certification of successful completion to the Board or its designee not later than 15 calendar days after successfully completing the program or not later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

3. PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES PROGRAM. Within 60 calendar days from the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a professional boundaries program approved in advance by the Board or its designee. Respondent, at the program's discretion, shall undergo and complete the program's assessment of Respondent's competency, mental health and/or neuropsychological performance, and at minimum, a 24 hour program of interactive education and training in the area of boundaries, which takes into account data obtained from the assessment and from the Decision(s), Accusation(s) and any other information that the Board or its designee deems relevant. The program shall evaluate Respondent at the end of the training and the program shall provide any data from the assessment and training as well as the results of the evaluation to the Board or its designee.

Failure to complete the entire program not later than six (6) months after Respondent's initial enrollment shall constitute a violation of probation unless the Board or its designee agrees in writing to a later time for completion. Based on Respondent's performance in and evaluations from the assessment, education, and training, the program shall advise the Board or its designee of its recommendation(s) for additional education, training, psychotherapy and other measures necessary to ensure that Respondent can practice medicine safely. Respondent shall comply with program recommendations. At the completion of the program, Respondent shall submit to a final evaluation. The program shall provide the results of the evaluation to the Board or its designee. The professional boundaries program shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure and shall be in addition to the education course(s) required by Condition 3.

The program has the authority to determine whether or not Respondent successfully completed the program.

A professional boundaries course taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Board or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the course would have been approved by the Board or its designee had the course been taken after the effective date of this Decision.

If Respondent fails to complete the program within the designated time period, Respondent shall cease the practice of medicine within three (3) calendar days after being notified by the Board or its designee that Respondent failed to complete the program.

4. <u>PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATION</u>. Within 30 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, and on whatever periodic basis thereafter may be required by the Board or its designee, Respondent shall undergo and complete a psychiatric evaluation (and psychological testing, if deemed necessary) by a Board-appointed board certified psychiatrist, who shall consider any information provided by the Board or designee and any other information the psychiatrist deems relevant, and shall furnish a written evaluation report to the Board or its designee. Psychiatric evaluations conducted prior to the effective date of the Decision shall not be accepted towards the fulfillment of this requirement. Respondent shall pay the cost of all psychiatric evaluations and psychological testing.

Respondent shall comply with all restrictions or conditions recommended by the evaluating psychiatrist within 15 calendar days after being notified by the Board or its designee.

5. <u>PSYCHOTHERAPY</u>. Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for prior approval the name and qualifications of a California-licensed board certified psychiatrist or a licensed psychologist who has a doctoral degree in psychology and at least five years of postgraduate experience in the diagnosis and treatment of emotional and mental disorders. Upon approval, Respondent shall undergo and continue psychotherapy treatment, including any modifications to the frequency of psychotherapy, until the Board or its designee deems that no further psychotherapy is necessary.

The psychotherapist shall consider any information provided by the Board or its designee and any other information the psychotherapist deems relevant and shall furnish a written evaluation report to the Board or its designee. Respondent shall cooperate in providing the psychotherapist with any information and documents that the psychotherapist may deem pertinent.

Respondent shall have the treating psychotherapist submit quarterly status reports to the Board or its designee. The Board or its designee may require Respondent to undergo psychiatric evaluations by a Board-appointed board certified psychiatrist. If, prior to the completion of probation, Respondent is found to be mentally unfit to resume the practice of medicine without restrictions, the Board shall retain continuing jurisdiction over Respondent's license and the period of probation shall be extended until the Board determines that Respondent is mentally fit to resume the practice of medicine without restrictions.

Respondent shall pay the cost of all psychotherapy and psychiatric evaluations.

6. MONITORING - PRACTICE. Within 30 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for prior approval as a practice monitor, the name and qualifications of one or more licensed physicians and surgeons whose licenses are valid and in good standing, and who are preferably American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) certified. A monitor shall have no prior or current business or personal relationship with Respondent, or other relationship that could reasonably be expected to compromise the ability of the monitor to render fair and unbiased reports to the Board, including but not limited to any form of bartering, shall be in Respondent's field of practice, and must agree to serve as Respondent's monitor. Respondent shall pay all monitoring costs.

The Board or its designee shall provide the approved monitor with copies of the Decision(s) and Accusation(s), and a proposed monitoring plan. Within 15 calendar days of receipt of the Decision(s), Accusation(s), and proposed monitoring plan, the monitor shall submit a signed statement that the monitor has read the Decision(s) and Accusation(s), fully understands the role of a monitor, and agrees or disagrees with the proposed monitoring plan. If the monitor disagrees with the proposed monitoring plan with the

signed statement for approval by the Board or its designee.

Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, and continuing throughout probation, Respondent's practice shall be monitored by the approved monitor. Respondent shall make all records available for immediate inspection and copying on the premises by the monitor at all times during business hours and shall retain the records for the entire term of probation.

If Respondent fails to obtain approval of a monitor within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to cease the practice of medicine within three (3) calendar days after being so notified. Respondent shall cease the practice of medicine until a monitor is approved to provide monitoring responsibility.

The monitor(s) shall submit a quarterly written report to the Board or its designee which includes an evaluation of Respondent's performance, indicating whether Respondent's practices are within the standards of practice of medicine, and whether Respondent is practicing medicine safely, billing appropriately or both. It shall be the sole responsibility of Respondent to ensure that the monitor submits the quarterly written reports to the Board or its designee within 10 calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.

If the monitor resigns or is no longer available, Respondent shall, within 5 calendar days of such resignation or unavailability, submit to the Board or its designee, for prior approval, the name and qualifications of a replacement monitor who will be assuming that responsibility within 15 calendar days. If Respondent fails to obtain approval of a replacement monitor within 60 calendar days of the resignation or unavailability of the monitor, Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to cease the practice of medicine within three (3) calendar days after being so notified. Respondent shall cease the practice of medicine until a replacement monitor is approved and assumes monitoring responsibility.

In lieu of a monitor, Respondent may participate in a professional enhancement program approved in advance by the Board or its designee that includes, at minimum, quarterly chart review, semi-annual practice assessment, and semi-annual review of professional growth and education. Respondent shall participate in the professional enhancement program at Respondent's

expense during the term of probation.

7. NOTIFICATION. Within seven (7) days of the effective date of this Decision, the Respondent shall provide a true copy of this Decision and Accusation to the Chief of Staff or the Chief Executive Officer at every hospital where privileges or membership are extended to Respondent, at any other facility where Respondent engages in the practice of medicine, including all physician and locum tenens registries or other similar agencies, and to the Chief Executive Officer at every insurance carrier which extends malpractice insurance coverage to Respondent. Respondent shall submit proof of compliance to the Board or its designee within 15 calendar days.

This condition shall apply to any change(s) in hospitals, other facilities or insurance carrier.

- 8. <u>SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND ADVANCED PRACTICE</u>

 <u>NURSES.</u> During probation, Respondent is not prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses.
- 9. <u>OBEY ALLLAWS</u>. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, all rules governing the practice of medicine in California and remain in full compliance with any court ordered criminal probation, payments, and other orders.
- ordered to reimburse the Board its costs of enforcement, including, but not limited to, legal reviews, amended accusations, additional legal and investigative work, as applicable, in the amount of \$11,000 (eleven thousand dollars and no cents). Costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of California. Failure to pay such costs shall be considered a violation of probation.

Payment must be made in full within 30 calendar days of the effective date of the Order, or by a payment plan approved by the Medical Board of California. Any and all requests for a payment plan shall be submitted in writing by Respondent to the Board. Failure to comply with the payment plan shall be considered a violation of probation.

The filing of bankruptcy by Respondent shall not relieve Respondent of the responsibility to repay investigation and enforcement costs.

11. QUARTERLY DECLARATIONS. Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations

under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Board, stating whether there has been compliance with all the conditions of probation.

Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations not later than 10 calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.

12. GENERAL PROBATION REQUIREMENTS.

Compliance with Probation Unit

Respondent shall comply with the Board's probation unit.

Address Changes

Respondent shall, at all times, keep the Board informed of Respondent's business and residence addresses, email address (if available), and telephone number. Changes of such addresses shall be immediately communicated in writing to the Board or its designee. Under no circumstances shall a post office box serve as an address of record, except as allowed by Business and Professions Code section 2021, subdivision (b).

Place of Practice

Respondent shall not engage in the practice of medicine in Respondent's or patient's place of residence, unless the patient resides in a skilled nursing facility or other similar licensed facility.

License Renewal

Respondent shall maintain a current and renewed California physician's and surgeon's license.

Travel or Residence Outside California

Respondent shall immediately inform the Board or its designee, in writing, of travel to any areas outside the jurisdiction of California which lasts, or is contemplated to last, more than thirty (30) calendar days.

In the event Respondent should leave the State of California to reside or to practice Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing 30 calendar days prior to the dates of departure and return.

13. INTERVIEW WITH THE BOARD OR ITS DESIGNEE. Respondent shall be

available in person upon request for interviews either at Respondent's place of business or at the probation unit office, with or without prior notice throughout the term of probation.

14. NON-PRACTICE WHILE ON PROBATION. Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing within 15 calendar days of any periods of non-practice lasting more than 30 calendar days and within 15 calendar days of Respondent's return to practice. Non-practice is defined as any period of time Respondent is not practicing medicine as defined in Business and Professions Code sections 2051 and 2052 for at least 40 hours in a calendar month in direct patient care, clinical activity or teaching, or other activity as approved by the Board. If Respondent resides in California and is considered to be in non-practice, Respondent shall comply with all terms and conditions of probation. All time spent in an intensive training program which has been approved by the Board or its designee shall not be considered non-practice and does not relieve Respondent from complying with all the terms and conditions of probation. Practicing medicine in another state of the United States or Federal jurisdiction while on probation with the medical licensing authority of that state or jurisdiction shall not be considered non-practice. A Board-ordered suspension of practice shall not be considered as a period of non-practice.

In the event Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation exceeds 18 calendar months, Respondent shall successfully complete the Federation of State Medical Boards's Special Purpose Examination, or, at the Board's discretion, a clinical competence assessment program that meets the criteria of Condition 18 of the current version of the Board's "Manual of Model Disciplinary Orders and Disciplinary Guidelines" prior to resuming the practice of medicine.

Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation shall not exceed two (2) years. Periods of non-practice will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term.

Periods of non-practice for a Respondent residing outside of California will relieve
Respondent of the responsibility to comply with the probationary terms and conditions with the
exception of this condition and the following terms and conditions of probation: Obey All Laws;
General Probation Requirements; Quarterly Declarations; Abstain from the Use of Alcohol and/or
Controlled Substances; and Biological Fluid Testing..

- 15. <u>COMPLETION OF PROBATION</u>. Respondent shall comply with all financial obligations (e.g., restitution, probation costs) not later than 120 calendar days prior to the completion of probation. This term does not include cost recovery, which is due within 30 calendar days of the effective date of the Order, or by a payment plan approved by the Medical Board and timely satisfied. Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's certificate shall be fully restored.
- 16. <u>VIOLATION OF PROBATION</u>. Failure to fully comply with any term or condition of probation is a violation of probation. If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an Accusation, or Petition to Revoke Probation, or an Interim Suspension Order is filed against Respondent during probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.
- 17. <u>LICENSE SURRENDER</u>. Following the effective date of this Decision, if
 Respondent ceases practicing due to retirement or health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy
 the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may request to surrender his or her license.
 The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion in
 determining whether or not to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate
 and reasonable under the circumstances. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender, Respondent
 shall within 15 calendar days deliver Respondent's wallet and wall certificate to the Board or its
 designee and Respondent shall no longer practice medicine. Respondent will no longer be subject
 to the terms and conditions of probation. If Respondent re-applies for a medical license, the
 application shall be treated as a petition for reinstatement of a revoked certificate.
- 18. PROBATION MONITORING COSTS. Respondent shall pay the costs associated with probation monitoring each and every year of probation, as designated by the Board, which may be adjusted on an annual basis. Such costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of California and delivered to the Board or its designee no later than January 31 of each calendar year.

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19. <u>FUTURE ADMISSIONS CLAUSE</u>. If Respondent should ever apply or reapply for a new license or certification, or petition for reinstatement of a license, or petitions the Board for early termination or modification of probation, or if an accusation and/or petition to revoke probation is filed against Respondent before the Board, or by any other health care licensing action agency in the State of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in First Amended Accusation No. 800-2020-064523 shall be deemed to be true, correct, and admitted by Respondent for the purpose of any such Petition, Statement of Issues or any other proceeding seeking to deny, restrict or reinstate a license.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Nicholas Jurkowitz, Esq. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order freely, voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

DATED: 10/27/22 NAHEED PYAR ALI, M.D.
Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Naheed Pyar Ali, M.D. the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content.

DATED: 0-00120 NICHOLAS JURKOWITZ, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent

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STIPULATED SETTLEMENT (800-2020-064523)

ENDORSEMENT The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California. DATED: October 28, 2022 Respectfully submitted, **ROB BONTA** Attorney General of California ROBERT MCKIM BELL Supervising Deputy Attorney General Colleen M. McGurin COLLEEN M. MCGURRIN Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant LA2020602722 65503672.docx

Exhibit A

First Amended Accusation No. 800-2020-064523

	II .		
1	ROB BONTA		
2	Attorney General of California ROBERT MCKIM BELL	•	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General COLLEEN M. MCGURRIN		
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar Number 147250		
5	California Department of Justice 300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702		
6	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 269-6546		
7	Facsimile: (916) 731-2117 E-mail: Colleen.McGurrin@doj.ca.gov		
8	Attorneys for Complainant	·	
9			
10	BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
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12	STATE OF C	ALIFORNIA	
13	In the Motter of the First Accusation Assistant	[G 2] 200 2000 25450	
14	In the Matter of the First Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2020-064523	
15	NAHEED PYAR ALI, M.D. 435 North Bedford Drive, Suite 107 Beverly Hills, California 90210 FIRST AMENDED ACCUSATION		
16 17	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number C 54393,		
18	Respondent.	·	
19	•		
20			
21	PARTIES		
22	1. William Prasifka (Complainant) brings this First Amended Accusation solely in his		
23	official capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California (Board).		
24	2. On October 29, 2010, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number		
25	C 54393 to Naheed Pyar Ali, M.D. (Respondent). That license was in full force and effect at all		
26	times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on April 30, 2022, unless renewed.		
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28 .	//		
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JURISDICTION

- 3. This First Amended Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.
- 4. Section 22 of the Code states: "Board" as used in any provisions of this code, refers to the board in which the administration of the provision is vested, and unless otherwise expressly provided, shall include "division," "examining committee," and "agency."
 - 5. Section 2227 of the Code provides, in pertinent part:
 - (a) A licensee whose matter has been heard by an administrative law judge of the Medical Quality Hearing Panel as designated in Section 11371 of the Government Code, or whose default has been entered, and who is found guilty, or who has entered into a stipulation for disciplinary action with the board, may, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter:
 - (1) Have . . . her license revoked upon order of the board.
 - (2) Have . . . her right to practice suspended for a period not to exceed one year upon order of the board.
 - (3) Be placed on probation and be required to pay the costs of probation monitoring upon order of the board.
 - (4) Be publicly reprimanded by the board. The public reprimand may include a requirement that the licensee complete relevant educational courses approved by the board.
 - (5) Have any other action taken in relation to discipline as part of an order of probation, as the board or an administrative law judge may deem proper.
 - (b) Any matter heard pursuant to subdivision (a), except for warning letters, medical review or advisory conferences, professional competency examinations, continuing education activities, and cost reimbursement associated therewith that are agreed to with the board and successfully completed by the licensee, or other matters made confidential or privileged by existing law, is deemed public, and shall be made available to the public by the board pursuant to Section 803.1.
 - 6. Section 2220 of the Code provides, in pertinent part:

Except as otherwise provided by law, the board may take action against all persons guilty of violating this chapter. The board shall enforce and administer this article as to physician and surgeon certificate holders, . . . and the board shall have all the powers granted in this chapter for these purposes including, but not limited to:

- (a) Investigating complaints from . . . other licensees, from health care facilities, . . . that a physician and surgeon may be guilty of unprofessional conduct.
 - (b) ...(c).

- 7. Section 2230.5 of the Code provides, in pertinent part:
- (a) Except as provided in subdivision . . . (c) . . . any accusation filed against a licensee pursuant to Section 11503 of the Government Code shall be filed within three years after the board, or a division thereof, discovers the act or omission alleged as the ground for disciplinary action, or within seven years after the act or omission alleged as the ground for disciplinary action occurs, whichever occurs first.
 - (b)
- (c) An accusation filed against a licensee pursuant to Section 11503 of the Government Code alleging unprofessional conduct based on incompetence, gross negligence, or repeated negligent acts of the licensee is not subject to the limitation provided for by subdivision (a) upon proof that the licensee intentionally concealed from discovery his or her incompetence, gross negligence, or repeated negligent acts.
 - (d) . . . (f).
- 8. Section 2228 of the Code provides, in pertinent part:

The authority of the board . . . to discipline a licensee by placing . . .her on probation includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) Requiring the licensee to obtain additional professional training and to pass an examination upon the completion of the training. The examination may be written or oral, or both, and maybe a practical or clinical examination, or both, at the option of the board or the administrative law judge.
- (b) Requiring the licensee to submit to a complete diagnostic examination by one or more physicians and surgeons appointed by the board. If an examination is ordered, the board shall receive and consider any other report of a complete diagnostic examination given by one or more physicians and surgeons of the licensee's choice.
- (c) Restricting or limiting the extent, scope, or type of practice of the licensee, including requiring notice to applicable patients that the licensee is unable to perform the indicated treatment, where appropriate.
- (d) Providing the option of alternative community service in cases other than violations relating to quality of care.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

9. Section 2234 of the Code provides, in pertinent part:

The board shall take action against any licensee who is charged with unprofessional conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter.

conduct under section 2261 of the Code in that she knowingly made and signed documents related to the practice of medicine, which falsely represented the existence of the state of facts. The facts and circumstances are as follows:

- 16. On or about May 7, 2019, Respondent filed an initial application with Cedars-Sinai Health System Medical Center (Cedars-Sinai) in order to obtain hospital staff privileges.
- 17. In support of her application for staff membership, Respondent subsequently provided references from four physicians with whom she claimed to have worked. One was from Maduri Koka, M.D., dated August 29, 2019, who claimed to have known Respondent for three years, "was a team lead and supervised Dr. Ali's work," and had observed her from September 1, 2016 to August 1, 2019, at Little Company of Mary in Torrance rating her as "above average" in all categories. Respondent submitted another reference from David Turner, M.D., dated August 29, 2019, who claimed he had known Respondent for two to three years and had observed her from January 1, 2016 to January 1, 2018, at the University of California Irvine (UCI), and rated her as "above average" in all categories. Respondent submitted another reference from Andrea Cizova, M.D., dated August 30, 2019, who claimed he had observed her from March 1, 2011 to June 1, 2017, at Desert Valley Hospital, and rated her as "above average" in all categories. Respondent further submitted a reference from Michele Smith, M.D., dated August 30, 2019, who claimed she had observed Respondent from June 15, 2017 to June 15, 2019, at Little Company of Mary in Torrance, and rated her as "above average" in all categories.
- 18. As part of Cedar-Sinai's credentialing review process, the staff noticed that all four of these references came from the same Internet Protocol (IP) address, originating from a location in Westwood, California. The staff also called the hospitals where the references stated they had worked with Respondent and found that the hospitals had no idea who the four references were.
- 19. The staff also sent follow-up e-mails to these four references asking for clarification of some of the information contained in their Professional Reference Evaluation Forms submitted on behalf of Respondent. On or about September 27, 2019, staff sent an e-mail to Dr. Cizova requesting clarification regarding the period she claimed to observed Respondent at Desert Valley as Respondent's affiliation there appeared to have begun on November 15, 2013, not March 1.

2011 to November 14, 2013, as indicated on the reference evaluation form. The e-mail further requested clarification regarding Dr. Cizova's alleged observation of Respondent there from February 21, 2015 to June 1, 2017, as Respondent's affiliation there appeared to have ended on February 20, 2015. E-mail responses, purporting to be from Dr. Cizova, clarified that Respondent had worked at Desert Valley briefly in 2011, did more consistent work there in 2013 until 2015, and her last clinical interaction with Respondent was in 2017 or 2018, at two other locum assignments, at Little Company of Mary in Torrance; however, this facility was not listed on the reference form.

- 20. On or about September 27, 2019, the credentialing staff e-mailed Dr. Turner requesting clarification regarding his observations of Respondent from September 1, 2017 to January 1, 2018, at UCI as her affiliation there appeared to have ended on August 31, 2017. An e-mail, purporting to be from Dr. Turner, replied that "the dates on reference form kept defaulting back to 1/1/16-1/1/18. Perhaps a glitch in a system because I tried few times to correct them, but it would not save. I corrected them through in my e-mail reply i.e., 7/1/2016 through 7/30/2017."
- 21. On or about September 27, 2019, the credentialing staff e-mailed Dr. Smith requesting clarification regarding the observations of Respondent from February 22, 2019 to June 15, 2019, at Little Company of Mary in Torrance as her affiliation there appeared to have ended on February 21, 2019. An e-mail, purporting to be from Dr. Smith, replied that Respondent continues to work at health care partner's Little Company of Mary affiliated urgent care center.
- 22. On or about October 2, 2019, the credentialing staff e-mailed Dr. Koka requesting clarification regarding the observations of Respondent from February 22, 2019 to August 1, 2019, at Little Company of Mary in Torrance as her affiliation there appeared to have ended on February 21, 2019. The e-mail further requested that the doctor confirm the spelling of their first name as the form was signed Maduri. An e-mail response, purportedly from Dr. Koka, replied that they had worked together at "health care partner's urgent care" at Little Company of Mary hospital patients, and that "madhu is short for mandhuri which is my first name"; however, the reference form indicates the name and signature of "Maduri Koka" not Madhu or Madhuri.
 - 23. As a further part of the credentialing review process, the staff conducted a license

search of the Medical Board of California's (Board's) website, which revealed that there was no, and had not been, any Michele Smith, Andrea Cizova, or Madhuri Kokas licensed in the State of California. In addition, there were three David Turners on the Board's website; however, one was deceased, another had his license canceled more than five years earlier, and the other lived in Florida and had surrendered his California license to avoid disciplinary action.

- 24. On January 13, 2020, Cedars-Sinai sent Respondent a detailed letter asking her to explain these discrepancies within thirty days. Instead of offering an explanation, on January 16, 2020, Respondent withdrew her application for medical staff membership.
- 25. When interviewed about the circumstances of her application and the four references, Respondent stated, "I was just getting overwhelmed and I did a silly mistake. I just made these references up so that my file can be - can be moved on," admitting that she fabricated the identity of the four references. She further admitted to making up the e-mail addresses of the four references. When the hospital staff was e-mailing the four references asking for clarifications, she was the one actually responding, impersonating those doctors in support of her application for staff privileges. When asked if she knew this was a violation, she replied that she "didn't even give it a thought" and "didn't realize it would be it would be such a big deal at that time." She further admitted that she "never met anyone with [the name of Madhuri Koka]" at Little Company of Mary Hospital, but it was a very common name in her culture, so she "just made it up" "[w]hatever came to my mind is what I just put together."
- 26. Respondent's acts constitute unprofessional conduct. She fabricated professional references and impersonated those references by supplying falsified fabricated evaluations. She then signed those evaluations, which she then submitted to a medical or professional credentialing office to obtain hospital staff privileges.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Dishonest and Corrupt Acts Substantially Related)

27. By reason of the facts set forth above in paragraphs 15 through 24, Respondent Naheed Pyar Ali, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234, subdivision (e), of the Code in that she engaged in dishonest and corrupt acts substantially related to the qualifications,

functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon when she fabricated professional references and evaluations, impersonated those references by creating false e-mail addresses and responding to the hospital credentialing staff e-mails supplying further falsified information in order to obtain hospital staff privileges.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Impersonating Another Licensee)

28. By reason of the facts set forth above in paragraphs 15 through 24, Respondent Naheed Pyar Ali, M.D., is subject to disciplinary action under section 2289 for unprofessional conduct for the impersonation of the four professional references she submitted on her behalf in order to obtain hospital staff privileges.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Procurement by Unlawful Means of a Writing

with Intent It Be Used as Evidence of Qualifications)

29. By reason of the facts set forth above in paragraphs 15 through 24, Respondent Naheed Pyar Ali, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct under section 581 of the Code when she possessed or procured by unlawful means a writing with intent that it be used as evidence of her qualifications to practice as a physician and surgeon in order to obtain hospital staff privileges.

FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Use of Counterfeited Documents)

30. By reason of the facts set forth above in paragraphs 15 through 24, Respondent Naheed Pyar Ali, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct under section 582 of the Code for her use or attempt to use writings which had been counterfeited as to her character to practice as a physician and surgeon and obtain hospital staff privileges.

SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Gross Negligence)

31. By reason of the facts set forth above in paragraphs 15 through 24, Respondent Naheed Pyar Ali, M.D., is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234, subdivision (b), of